

CLAIMS

1. A method of receiving a signal propagated over a signal channel, comprising receiving and demodulating the signal, equalising the demodulated
5 signal in a first operation to counter a first type of distortion and in a second operation equalising the signal from the first operation to counter a second type of distortion.
2. A method as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that the
10 equalisation in the first operation is to counter distortion introduced by the signal channel.
3. A method as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that the
15 equalisation in the first operation is to counter intersymbol interference (ISI).
4. A method as claimed in claim 2 or 3, characterised in that the
equalisation in the second operation is to counter distortions introduced by
transmitting and receiving equipments.
- 20 5. A method as claimed in claim 4, characterised by training an equalising stage used in the first operation using a first training sequence which includes the non-linear characteristics present in the transmitting and receiving equipment.
- 25 6. A method as claimed in claim 4 or 5, characterised by training an equalising stage used in the second operation using a second training sequence which counters the non-linear characteristics present in the transmitting and receiving equipment.
- 30 7. A method as claimed in claim 1, characterised by storing training sequences for respective couples of transmitting and receiving equipments

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and by selecting the optimum training sequence for a currently used couple of transmitting and receiving equipments.

8. A receiver comprising means for receiving a signal propagated
5 over a signal channel, means for demodulating the received signal, a first
equalising stage coupled to the demodulating means for countering a first type
of distortion and a second equalising stage coupled to the first equalising
stage for countering a second type of distortion.

10 9. A receiver as claimed in claim 8, characterised in that the first
equalising stage includes means for storing a first training sequence and the
second equalising stage includes means for storing a second training
sequence.

15 10. A receiver as claimed in claim 9, characterised by means for
storing a plurality of the first and second training sequences for respective
couples comprising the receiver with different transmitters and means for
selecting an optimum training sequence for a currently used couple.

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